

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2692

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 1685

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT DA UR

SUBJECT: DANES ARRESTED FOR ESPIONAGE

REF: COPENHAGEN 0131

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

SUMMARY: TWO DANES HAVE BEEN ARRESTED FOR TRANSFERRING
NATO-EMBARGOED ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT TO THE SOVIETS. END
SUMMARY.

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1. IN WHAT THE PRESS HAS BILLED AS "THE MOST SERIOUS CASE

FOR A LONG TIME", THE OWNER OF A DANISH ELECTRONICS COMPANY AND HIS WIFE WERE ARRESTED ON MAY 11 FOR ESPIONAGE. HE IS A 37-YEAR OLD ENGINEER, BENT WEIBEL, AND THE OWNER-PRESIDENT OF TWO SMALL ELECTRONICS COMPANIES LOCATED BETWEEN ROSKILDE AND COPENHAGEN, INGWEI A/S AND M.B. WEIBEL.

2. MR. WEIBEL WAS CHARGED WITH TRANSFERRING NATO-EMBARGOED ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. ONE NEWSPAPER SPECULATES THAT THE EQUIPMENT INCLUDED AN APPARATUS TO MEASURE BALLISTIC TRAJECTORIES. WEIBEL'S COMPANIES ASSERTEDLY MANUFACTURE SUCH EQUIPMENT WHICH HE NORMALLY SELLS TO THE DANISH MILITARY. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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3. COMMENT: DANISH POLICE INTELLIGENCE HAS BEEN WORKING ON THIS CASE FOR MONTHS AND IS CONVINCED THAT WEIBEL'S GUILT HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY DOCUMENTED. APPARENTLY, WEIBEL HAD BEEN IN EXTENDED CONTACT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOVIET TRADE MISSION HERE WHOSE SUCCESSFUL PERSUASION WAS BASED ON MONETARY, NOT IDEOLOGICAL, CONSIDERATIONS.

4. THE PRESS HAS LINKED THE WEIBEL CASE WITH FOUR SOVIET GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FORMERLY POSTED HERE WHOM THE DANES IDENTIFIED LAST FALL AS BEING INVOLVED IN INDUSTRIAL ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES: EMBASSY SECOND SECRETARY ANATOLI SHAROV AND ALEKSEY N. OSIPOV, VIKTOR KEDROV AND OLEG YERMAKOV ALL OF THE SOVIET TRADE MISSION (SEE REFTEL).

5. THE POLICE INTELLIGENCE PEOPLE HOPE TO KEEP PRESS INTEREST IN THE CASE ALIVE AS AN INDICATION THAT THE DANES MUST REMAIN ON THEIR GUARD AGAINST CONTINUING INIMICAL ACTS AGAINST DENMARK BY THE SOVIETS AND EASTERN EUROPEANS.
LUKENS

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